SCOOBY-DOO!™

and the Truth Behind SEA MONSTERS

BY TERRY COLLINS
ILLUSTRATED BY DARIO BRIZUELA

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The weather at the beach was beautiful. Velma opened the cool box. "Lunch time, gang!" she shouted. "Hey, where's Scooby?"

"No sign of him here!" Shaggy replied.

"He's not on the beach," Fred said.

"Scooby-Doo, where are you?" Daphne called towards the sea.

"Rover here!" Scooby cried.

"Like, you totally crushed my castle, Scoob," said Shaggy.

Scooby pointed towards the water. "Rea ronster!" he yelled.

A sea monster? I've been reading about them!
So what is a sea monster?
Any monster that lives in or near the sea, a lake, a river or a swamp.

Were sea monsters around a long time ago?
Yes, sea monsters first appeared millions of years ago. Scientists have found fossils of them.
PTERYGOTUS
DUNKLEOSTEUS

Like, neither of these two will win a sea monster beauty contest.
One of these, the Pterygotus, was known as the Sea Scorpion. Another, the Dunkleosteus, was about as big as a bus.
PTERYGOTUS
DUNKLEOSTEUS

"So how big can sea monsters get, anyway?" Shaggy wondered.

"Well, the Leviathan is one of the biggest sea creatures of legend," said Fred. "One report estimated he was 1,448 kilometres (900 miles) long!"

"I'm sorry I asked," Shaggy said.

"He had rows of sharp teeth," Fred continued, "and breathed fire."

"Yikes!" said Scooby.

"So what's the most famous sea monster?" Shaggy asked.

"That's easy," replied Daphne. "The Loch Ness monster, or Nessie."

"Ressie?" asked Scooby.

Nessie has a small head and a long neck. She also has at least one hump on her back. Tourists from all around the world travel to Loch Ness in Scotland to try and see her. But Nessie has never been caught. Most people think she's a myth.

"So, have sea monsters ever attacked people?" Shaggy asked.

"Some of them, yes," Velma replied. "The mythical kraken was probably a type of giant squid that still exists today. The kraken is supposed to have lived off the coasts of Norway and Greenland. It is thought to have been about 15 metres (50 feet) long."

"Rig rea ronster!" Scooby said.

"Very big," said Fred. "With eight long arms, it was said to be able to easily grab ships and pull them under water."

YIKES!

There's Ogopogo. It is thought to live in Lake Okanagan in Canada. Ogopogo is thought to be able to swim as fast as 64 kilometres (40 miles) an hour.
Are there any other well known sea monsters?

Oh, and in Greek mythology, the Hydra is a giant reptile that lived in the Lake of Lerna. It had nine heads and spat venom!
Nine heads? I guess it was also the cleverest sea monster!

Hey, is the Mokele-mbembe a sea monster?

"Yes," said Velma. "It is believed to live in and around the Congo River in Africa."

"No one has ever taken a picture or found any proof that the monster exists," Fred added. "But experts think it could be a long-lost dinosaur."

"It's said to have the body of an elephant and a long, flexible neck and tail," said Velma.

Like, are giant jellyfish sea monsters?
RELLYFISH!

"According to the crew of the *Kuranda*, yes!" Velma said. "In 1973 a giant jellyfish got stuck to the front of their ship."

"How big was it?" Shaggy wondered.

"It weighed about 18 metric tons," said Velma, as she showed the gang the screen of her tablet. "The tentacles were more than 61 metres (200 ft) long."

"What should I do if I see a sea monster?" Shaggy asked.

"If you can, take pictures or a video of what you see," Daphne replied.

"Yes," said Fred, "and try to get a good shot. The pictures people have taken of the Loch Ness monster are blurry and dark."

I guess sea monsters don't like having their pictures taken, eh Scoob?
HEE, HEE, HEE!

Wait, guys, Scooby's monster is only a floating buoy. It must have broken loose and got caught in the tide.
ROOK!
REA RONSTER!

Now that this mystery is solved, who's ready to eat? We've got fresh prawns, oysters and shellfish!
Er, I'm taking a break from seafood. You never know when it might try to bite back!

GLOSSARY

legend old story handed down from the past

myth story told by people in ancient times; myths often tried to explain natural events

mythical imaginary; only found in myths

squid sea animal with a long, soft body and 10 finger-like arms used to grasp food

tentacle long, flexible limb used for moving, feeling and grabbing

venom poisonous liquid produced by some animals

WEBSITES

www.bbc.co.uk/sn/prehistoric_life/dinosaurs/seamonsters/
Discover amazing facts, have a look at realistic computer-generated images and even play a sea monster game.

www.nationalgeographic.com/seamonsters/index.html
Go on a prehistoric adventure through time and learn about monsters of the sea from all over the world through facts, photos and video clips.

BOOKS

Sea Monsters (Legends of the Sea), Catherine Veitch (Raintree, 2010)

Spectacular Squid (Creatures of the Deep), Casey Rand (Raintree, 2012)

INDEX

Dunkleosteus 7
fossils 6
Hydra 15
jellyfish 18–19
kraken 12
Leviathan 8
Loch Ness monster 10–11, 20
Mokele-mbembe 16–17
Ogopogo 14
Pterygotus 7

228

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SCOOBY-DOO! and the Truth Behind SEA MONSTERS

Scooby-Doo and the gang have seen their fair share of monsters, but Shaggy still has lots of questions. Have you ever wondered what sea monsters are, where you can find them or how to try and prove they exist? Scooby and the gang have all the answers! Read this book to discover the truth behind sea monsters.

TITLES IN THIS SERIES:

SCOOBY-DOO! and the Truth Behind Ghosts
SCOOBY-DOO! and the Truth Behind Mummies
SCOOBY-DOO! and the Truth Behind Sea Monsters
SCOOBY-DOO! and the Truth Behind Vampires
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